



February 2023 Newsletter

As part of Catholic Schools Week 2023 we are delighted to inform you that we are extending a warm welcome to all our Grandparents to visit the children in school on Wednesday 1st February. There will be an opportunity for them to visit the children's classrooms; interact in a few activities and then enjoy refreshments in the canteen. If a child is unable to be visited by a Grandparent-a Parent or Guardian may wish to attend in their place. This is open to the nursery as well as the primary school. **Please note that we are expecting very large numbers to this event which runs from 9.15am- 11am.**



We would like to extend a warm welcome to all
our Grandparents on
Wednesday 1st February at 9.15am
to enjoy activities with their grandchildren and
some light refreshments



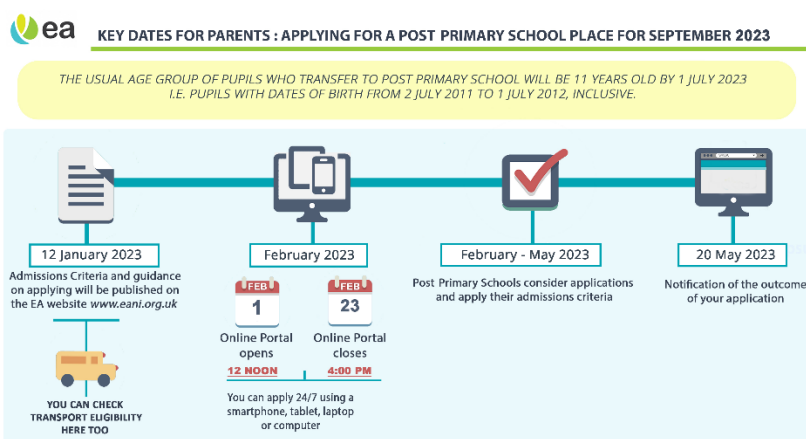
Catholic Schools Week 2023
Catholic Schools: Walking Together in Faith & Love

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Walking Together in Faith and Love

As part of Safer Internet Day, we are holding an information session for Parents/Guardians on Tuesday 7th February in the school at 6-7pm. This is being facilitated by Mr Harvey and Mr McAleer from All State NI. This is a **very worthwhile event** and aims to keep Parents/Guardians informed on how to keep your child safe online. This information session will run during the Nursery's big bedtime read. All welcome!



FAO: All Parents/Guardians of Primary 7 pupils.



The Education Authority portal for post primary applications will open on Wednesday 1st February 2023. Please contact Mrs McCafferty if you require any help or assistance.

Click on the link below for more information on the application process.

<https://www.eani.org.uk/parents/admissions/post-primary-admissions-guide>



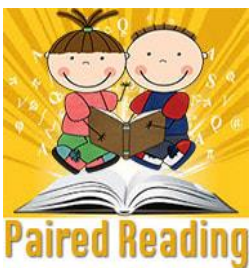
Our student council would like us to support 2 charities this month.

Thursday 9th February- Autism Awareness Superhero Day. Wear a superhero costume or non-uniform and bring in £1 (£2 max. per family) in aid of Autism NI and complete the following tasks...

Superhero Tasks for the Week:

- Be as strong as a superman and help carry the shopping
- Be as smart as ironman and do your homework
- Be as kind as wonder woman and feed your pets or the birds
- Be as generous as black panther and set the table
- Be amazing like spiderman and keep your room tidy

Friday 10th February- Rock Red Friday. Wear something red/non-uniform and bring in £1 (£2 max. per family) in aid of The Children's Heartbeat Trust.



We are delighted to inform you that our Primary 3 children will be participating in a 5 week Paired Reading Programme. This aims to significantly improve their confidence and reading fluency. **An information session will be held for Parents/Guardians on Monday 20th February at 2.20pm in the school assembly hall about this initiative.**

We will be holding a consultation of our draft Relationships & Sexuality Education (RSE) scheme on **Thursday 23rd January at 2.15pm in the school assembly hall** for Parents/Guardians of **Primary 2 - Primary 7 children**. All welcome to attend. We want to seek your views and opinions as we continue to develop this aspect of our curriculum. In order for us to organise resources please book your place here: <https://forms.office.com/e/LDsmzvwxixi>



New Education Authority Youth Centre

The Youth Centre which is located next door to the school will be undergoing major development works commencing on Monday 13th February. **There will be increased pressures on parking in and around the school grounds during this construction work.** This may be a great opportunity for local families to begin walking or cycling to school.

We would like to take the opportunity to remind our school community on the various procedures in which to follow to ensure the health and safety of everyone.

- Parents/guardians are not permitted to drive into the school ground unless they are blue badge holders or there is a special arrangement made with Mrs McCafferty.
- Those attending the breakfast club should be accompanied by an adult to the canteen door and enter the school grounds via the top pedestrian gate located near the nursery.
- Please do not park on the yellow zig zag lines outside the school gates as they are essential for visibility.
- Please use the school crossing patrol

What's on at Good Shepherd Primary & Nursery School?

Date	What's on?
1/2/23	Grandparents Day
1/2/23	Dance Club- WEEK 4 2-3pm P1 & P2, 3-4pm P3-P7
2/2/23	Maiden City Soccer P1 & P2 2-3pm, P3, P4, P5, P6 & P7 3-4pm This club is now full!
2/3/23	After school yoga week 2- More spaces available...please pay via parentpay
3/2/23	P5 Mrs Mitchell's class swimming @1.30pm week 3
3/2/23	Primary 6 Mrs Houston's class assembly @9.30am- all welcome!
7/2/23	Safer Internet Day P4 & P5 workshops
7/2/23	Nursery- big bedtime read 6-7pm
7/2/23	Safer Internet Day- Parent/Guardian information session 6-7pm
7/2/23	Multi-sport after school club- WEEK 5 2-3pm P1 & P2, 3-4pm P3-P7
8/2/23	Dance Club- WEEK 5 2-3pm P1 & P2, 3-4pm P3-P7
9/2/23	P6 Mental Health Workshop with Shauna Mullan Education Authority
9/2/23	P5 Seasonal walk with Sustrans
9/2/23	Maiden City Soccer P1 & P2 2-3pm, P3, P4, P5, P6 & P7 3-4pm
9/2/23	After school yoga week 3
9/2/23	Autism Awareness Superhero Day- dress up as a superhero or wear non-uniform. £1 (or £2 max. per family) in aid of Autism NI
10/2/23	Primary 7 Road Safety Quiz rescheduled. The Guildhall @10am
10/2/23	P5 Mrs Mitchell's class swimming @1.30pm week 4
10/2/23	Cross Country @Templemore
10/2/23	Rock Red Friday- wear something red. £1 (or £2 max. per family) in aid of The Children's Heartbeat Trust
10/2/23	Primary 6 Ms Grant's class assembly @9.30am- all welcome!
13th-17th February: school closed for the midterm break	
20/2/23	Primary 3 Paired Reading Parent/Guardian information session at 2.20pm in the school assembly hall
21/2/23	Nursery-P7 School closure until 12.10pm due to strike action. School will reopen at 12.10pm to all pupils. More information to follow.
21/2/23	Multi-sport after school club- WEEK 6 2-3pm P1 & P2, 3-4pm P3-P7
22/2/23	Dance Club- WEEK 6 2-3pm P1 & P2 3-4pm P3-P7
23/2/23	Parent/Guardian Consultation of draft RSE scheme P2-P7 @2.15pm
23/2/23	Maiden City Soccer P1 & P2 2-3pm, P3, P4, P5, P6 & P7 3-4pm
23/2/23	After school yoga week 4

Date	What's on?
24/2/23	P5 Mrs Mitchell's class swimming @1.30pm week 5
28/2/23	Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service visit to Primary 5
28/2/23	Multi-sport after school club- WEEK 7 2-3pm P1 & P2, 3-4pm P3-P7



Learning starts at 9am every day. It is important that your child is punctual for school. School gates open from 8.45am. **Breakfast club is open from 8.10am. No need to book in for the breakfast club- £1 a day per child.** **Please enter the school grounds via the Nursery pedestrian gate.**



Please ensure that you download the Schools NI App which is linked to our website. Click on the ? on the app and ensure that notifications are turned on. This is our central means of communication.

Covid-19 Information

- Check your child's temperature every morning before they come to school
- If your child is displaying any symptoms of Covid-19, do not send them to school
- If your child tests positive for Covid-19 they can return to school after 3 days if they are well enough
- Please keep us informed to keep our school community safe 😊

Safeguarding Information



I would like to take the opportunity to remind parents/guardians that **no cars are permitted inside the school grounds at any time** unless this has been pre-arranged with Mrs McCafferty or you are a blue badge holder. Please share this information with grandparents and childminders as refusal often causes offence. **Please ensure that the school gates are kept clear. Cars should not be parked on the yellow zigzag lines outside the school gates at any time.** Please talk to your child about general road safety. Please cross the road using the school crossing patrol. Enter and exit the school using the pedestrian gates only. Once your child is collected from school, please keep them beside you at all times. These measures are in the interest of everyone's health and safety. Thank you!

Members of the Schools Safeguarding team are:

The Chair of the Board of Governors (Mrs M. Hegarty)

The Designated Governor for Child Protection (Dr M. Gormley)

The Designated Teacher for Child Protection (Mrs Maria Harley)

Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection (Mrs S. McCafferty). Other members of Safeguarding Team:

Mrs P. Houston/Mrs R Warne /Mrs F Desmond/Mrs M Mc Cormack/Mr D Herron.

School policies can be found on the school website under the 'My School' section. There is also a wide range of support information for parents in the 'Parents Section' of the school website. This is updated regularly.